

by a young male walked towards the cat giving periodic calls. More Chital joined the group and gradually drove the cat out of the grazing area. Other members of the herd either pause to see what is happening or continue to graze.

Chital also give the alarm signals: calls, raised tail, and pause from grazing on the approach of the mongoose *Herpestes edwardsi* Hodgson.

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3. A FOURSOME OF BARKING DEER, *MUNTIACUS MUNTJAK* (ZIMM.)

Barking deer are by nature solitary animals. Occasionally a pair may be seen with a fawn but association of more than three individuals is seldom seen. It is therefore of interest to note that on March 16, 1969, four adults were seen together in a small area at the edge of a rather sharply circumscribed patch of forest by the side of the palace at Kuttikanum, approximately 4 km. to the southwest of Peermade in the Cardamom Hills (Kottayam District), Kerala State. The time was 7.30 a.m. and they were feeding peacefully, standing about two or three metres apart. Spotting the observer they bolted back into the forest, all in the same general direction. The reason why the four were together is probably because the patch of jungle is totally isolated from other areas with sufficient cover.

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